

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments, see pages 7-8 of the remarks filed 12/17/2009, with respect to the rejection of claim 4 under 35 USC 112 first paragraph have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of claim 4 has been withdrawn.

Election/Restrictions

2. This application is in condition for allowance except for the presence of claims 16-17 and 22-24 directed to an invention non-elected without traverse. Accordingly, claims 16-17 and 22-24 are being cancelled.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims:

Please cancel claims 16-17 and 22-24.

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4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MICHAEL C. KROFCHECK whose telephone number is (571)272-8193. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday.

5. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Matt Kim can be reached on 571-272-4182. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

6. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/MICHAEL C KROFCHECK/
Examiner, Art Unit 2186

/Matt Kim/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art
Unit 2186

Michael Krofcheck